

I am very concerned about Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election. It is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation, and unrestrained use of public airwaves.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Trying to sway public sentiment by airing propaganda days before a presidential election is reprehensible. When large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy... which is fair and truthful broadcasting. Also, instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter, instead of slimy, personal smear campaigns, or dishonest propaganda for a particular candidate.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.